

44

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/785,624	COK, RONALD S.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Andrew Schechter	2871	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the filing of 15 August 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-32.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 24 February 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>11/2/04</u> and <u>8/8/05</u> | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>IDS 8/15/05</u> . |

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Title:

The title has been replaced with "Tiled display comprising faceplate and displays with at least one defective pixel and method of manufacturing said tiled display".

End of examiner's amendment.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-32 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art [see, for instance, Figs. 11 and 12 of U.S. Patent No. 4,874,227 to *Matsukawa et al.*] discloses a tiled display comprising a) a plurality of flat panel displays [8] with pixels [11] arranged in an array; and b) one or more faceplates [13] in alignment with a plurality of flat-panel displays [8], having a plurality of lightpipes [12] in an array, with input end faces having an area larger than the area of one pixel [11] of the flat

Art Unit: 2871

panel display, and each lightpipe transmitting light from more than one pixel to the display surface of the tiled display. However, the prior art does not disclose the remaining limitation of claim 17, that each flat-panel display has at least one defective pixel. Instead, the prior art [see, for instance, U.S. Patent No. 5,654,781 to *Izumi* (col. 1, lines 32-41), U.S. Patent No. 5,889,568 to *Seraphim et al.* (col. 1, line 52 – col. 2, line 19), and U.S. Patent No. 6,259,838 to *Singh et al.* (col. 1, lines 12-54)] teaches that such tiling of small flat panel displays is done because single large displays are more likely to have such undesirable pixel defects, while the smaller modular displays can and should be (less expensively) discarded before the tiling process if such pixel defects are found. Claim 17 is therefore allowed, as are claims 18-32 which depend from it.

Similarly, the prior art does not teach the method of manufacturing such a tiled display comprising in particular the step of selecting a plurality of flat-panel displays each having at least one defective pixel. Claim 1 is therefore allowed, as are claims 2-16 which depend from it.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US 2004/0001679 to *Sisodia et al.* discloses fiber optics from display panels to a projection system.


U.S. Patent No. 6,618,115 to *Hiroki* discloses a compensation system for defective pixels.

U.S. Patent No. 5,251,280 to *Asada et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 5,465,315 to *Sakai et al.*, and U.S. Patent No. 5,572,034 to *Karellas* disclose fiber optics from display panels to a single tiled display surface.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrew Schechter whose telephone number is (571) 272-2302. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 9:00 - 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert H. Kim can be reached on (571) 272-2293. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Andrew Schechter
Primary Examiner
Technology Center 2800
2 September 2005